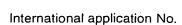
PCT INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference SMR/P550533PC International application No. PCT/GB 03/02940			FOR FURTHER ACTIO	N See Notificat Preliminary E	lion of Transmittal of International Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
		•	International filing date (day/m 08.07.2003	onth/year)	Priority date (day/month/year) 25.07.2002	
Interna D06P	1,00	tent Classification (IPC) or be	oth national classification and IP	0		
1		DUSTRIALS LIMITED	et al.			
1. T A	his interaction	rnational preliminary exan and is transmitted to the	nination report has been prep applicant according to Article	pared by this Int 36.	ernational Preliminary Examining	
2. T	his REF	PORT consists of a total o	f 4 sheets, including this cov	er sheet.		
	bee	in amended and are the b	iled by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets asis for this report and/or she 607 of the Administrative Ins	Acte containing	ion, claims and/or drawings which have rectifications made before this Authority	
Т		nexes consist of a total or				
3. Ti	his repo	rt contains indications rela	ating to the following items:			
ı	\boxtimes	Basis of the opinion		•		
11		Priority				
111		Non-establishment of or	pinion with regard to novelty,	inventive step a	and industrial applicability	
IV		Lack of unity of inventio		·	, in the same way	
V	\boxtimes	Reasoned statement un citations and explanation	ider Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with rega ns supporting such statemen	rd to novelty, in t	ventive step or industrial applicability;	
ΛI		Certain documents cited	j			
VI	· —	Certain defects in the in	ternational application			
VI		Certain observations on	the international application			
Date of si	uhmissio	n of the demand				
-410 01 31	GD11110010	ii oi ille uelliallu	Date o	f completion of thi	is report	
19.02.2	004		18.10	.2004		
Vame and oreliminar	d mailing ry examir	address of the international ning authority:	Authori	Authorized Officer		
European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465			epmu a	er-Hoffmann, one No. +49 89 23	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	



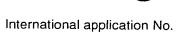


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 Basis of the repo 	r	٣
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1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

	De	scription, Pages	
	1-1	4	as originally filed
	Cla	ims, Numbers	
		•	
	1-3	0	as originally filed
	Dra	wings, Sheets	
	1/7-	7/7	as originally filed
2.	Witi lanç	h regard to the lang u guage in which the in	tage, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the ternational application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
	The	ese elements were av	vailable or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:
		the language of a tr	anslation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
		the language of pub	lication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
		the language of a translated Rule 55.2 and/or 55	anslation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under .3).
3.	With inte	n regard to any nucl e rnational preliminary	eotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
		contained in the inte	ernational application in written form.
		filed together with th	e international application in computer readable form.
		furnished subseque	ntly to this Authority in written form.
		furnished subseque	ntly to this Authority in computer readable form.
		The statement that to in the international a	he subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure application as filed has been furnished.
		The statement that the listing has been furn	he information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence ished.
١.	The	amendments have r	esulted in the cancellation of:
		the description,	pages:
		the claims,	Nos.:
		the drawings,	sheets:



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5. 🗆	This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).
	(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

- 6. Additional observations, if necessary:
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

Novelty (N)
Yes: Claims
No: Claims
Inventive step (IS)
Yes: Claims
1-27
No: Claims
Industrial applicability (IA)
Yes: Claims
No: Claims
1-27
No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. The application addresses the problem of providing a cue sports cloth which surface is better protected against the damages caused by the cue tip contacting the cloth.

The problem is solved by the combination of features of independent claims 1 and 15 which define a method of printing a cue sports cloth with a specific camouflage design not derivable from the prior art.

D1 (WO-A-97 27357) discloses a method for producing a surfacing cloth for playing surfaces or casino equipment wherein the cloth is dyed and then screen printed.

D2 (US-A-5936027) describes a method for using ink jet printing to obtain a visible printed image on a dyed textile wherein a specific ink composition is used (claim 24, column 5, lines 13 to 32).

D3 (EP-A-0 633 347) relates to an ink jet printing method for supplying at least two types of inks in a cloth wherein the two types of inks are applied onto the cloth such that the two types of inks overlap (see claims).

None of the documents cited describes or gives a hint to print the surface of a cue sports cloth with the specific camouflage design for solving the problem posed.

In the light of the documents cited in the Search report and in the current application, independent claims 1 and 15 seems to meet the requirements of Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT. Claims 2 to 14 and claims 16 to 27 contain modifications of the inventive idea embodied in claims 1 and 15 and thus also seems to meet the requirements of Articles 33(2) and 33(3) PCT.

2. Although claim 28 has been drafted as separate independent claim, it appears to relate effectively to the same subject-matter as disclosed in claim 15. Claim 28 should therefore dependent on claim 15 (Article 6 PCT).